

All Wards September 25th 2018 6:30-8:30pm

Miller Center, 130 Gosse Court, Burlington

Attendance: Chris Trombly-Ward 7, Linda Deliduka-Ward 7, James Loop-Ward 7, Charles Simpson-Ward 6, Jim Holloway-Ward 4, Dave Hartnett-North District Councilor

Facilitator: Chris Trombly

Start: 6:40pm

Ground rules, Introduction

Micro-grants to each NPA

In the past NPAs used to get Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) managed by CEDO. For example, Wards 4 and 7 NPA received \$8000 to do community projects without needing to go through application process.

Councilor Dave Hartnett proposed if there are insufficient funds to run an efficient and effective meeting then he wants to help. Would be interested to work with all the NPAs to form a resolution to come to the council to fund operations of NPA separate from any community grants. It's unfortunate that the NPAs are underfunded and the lack of resources is diminishing NPA support. 2 and 3 has a great atmosphere that provides food that increases attendance. NPAs needs to set goals to increase their attendance and do outreach with schools.

It would be undermining NPAs if going to CEDO to apply to grants. Don't want to go through the City administration and should go through City Council. If the administration wants to get bonds passed, then need to go through the NPA. If the NPAs don't exist, then the City won't have a neighborhood public forum to go through. Would have support from the council on an operational resolution.

Need to bring the resolution to each NPA to have a discussion and come up with a goal and amount. Action is start up a subcommittee to write up a resolution to deliver to each NPA to decide and then present to the council.

Open Forum

-role of All Wards

By design each NPA is autonomous which causes difficulty to coordinate or come to a consensus. With solid structure within NPA to manage such as bylaws, then could have a clear understanding of function. All Wards is not a legitimate body and used to unite all NPAs but for City wide issues such as School District bond. If write resolution at All Wards, then should go back to each respected NPAs. Local NPA should not be defined by political nature and landscape. If do this, then this limits welcoming people particularly if they are not citizens and can't vote. At NPAs can have a back and forth conversation with neighbors unlike City Council meeting. From a new SC member, realtors, and business community will support NPAs if the meetings stay neutral and not political. What is All Wards role to strengthen committee to do better facilitation and engagement to bring people together? This is the discussion that All Wards needs to do and bring to Community Development Neighborhood Revitalization (CDNR)

committee to help shape procedural of All Wards. There may be some disagreement internally among NPAs to put structure on All Wards.

- Memorial Auditorium

Disappointed that at Memorial Auditorium workshop #1 NPAs were not recognized for bringing out this issue in the first place. Didn't summarize what came out of All Wards Memorial meeting and CEDO didn't come to NPAs to involve in current engagement process.

-Waste Water Bond

Think it's clever that Mayor wants to put this cost on the water bill so doesn't impact non-profits. Should also look at making major developer accountable since they are using substantial water use. Sinex and Farrell should contribute to add to source of funds. Also, beer industry uses a lot of water and puts a toll on sewage system too. UVM and Champlain College could contribute too. \$5.00 increase in water bill will put more impact on seniors and renters that use less water. Can't keep closing beaches and polluting the lake but need to fix the system.

-BHS renovation-

This is a 70 million bond which is also a major topic to discuss at NPAs.

-Winooski Ave Corridor

This project was a follow up from North Ave pilot project where some residents didn't have equal access in walking, biking and looked at safety of intersections. Some interest group are well organized such as bikers and not walkers or drivers. This is why NPAs can help less organized groups to encompass their opinions. A committee was done by district and not by Ward so there is no representation for Ward 3 on Winooski Ave Corridor study. When representation is done only by district it doesn't account the distinct neighborhoods. There are a lot of major transportation infrastructure to calm and narrow streets. There should be more crosswalks and not flower pots. Narrowing of the streets are a concern for seniors that drive and can take away their independence to get around particular when public transportation is not ideal or supportive for seniors. This would be a perfect topic for NPAs to take on.

CEDO update:

CEDO has hired another Public Engagement Specialist who is charged with developing a Civic Engagement Handbook. Starting in October Noel Miller will be attending NPAs to meet SC members.

End: 8:35pm

Notes taken by Phet Keomanyvanh-CEDO